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SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 1945

EMMA GAZZANIGA, CECELIA TREZZI, CLELIA MAINETTI,  
BONOSA COLOMBO, EMMA BALDISSEROTTO, LINA DAL-  
DOSSO, LUCIA PAGANONI, AND REGINA PAGANI

JUNE 27, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted  
the following

## REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4866]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 4866) for the relief of Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, Clelia Mainetti, Bonosa Colombo, Emma Baldisserotto, Lina Daldosso, Lucia Paganoni, and Regina Pagani, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, Clelia Mainetti, Bonosa Colombo, Emma Baldisserotto, Lina Daldosso, Lucia Paganoni, and Regina Pagani. The bill provides for appropriate quota deductions and for the payment of the required visa fees and head taxes.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiaries of the bill are eight Roman Catholic nuns who are natives and citizens of Italy. They last entered the United States as visitors on October 9, 1950. They are members of the Order of the Missionary Sisters of Verona and are engaged in teaching duties among the Negro population in the South.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated May 14, 1952, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

MAY 14, 1952.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill, (H. R. 4866) for the relief of Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, Clelia Mainetti, Bonosa Colombo, Emma Baldisserotto, Lina DalDosso, Lucia Paganoni, and Regina Pagani, aliens. The bill would grant the aliens permanent residence in the United.

There is attached a memorandum prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department setting forth the facts in these cases.

Should the bill receive favorable consideration, it is suggested that it be amended by deleting the name "Bonosa" in the title and in line 5 and substituting the name "Bruna."

The quota for Italy, to which the aliens are chargeable, is oversubscribed and quota immigration visas are not readily obtainable. In the absence of special legislation they will be unable to remain in the United States for an indefinite period.

Whether, under the circumstances in these cases, the general provisions of the immigration laws should be waived presents a question of legislative policy concerning which this Department prefers not to make any recommendation.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,  
*Deputy Attorney General.*

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE EMMA GAZZANIGA, CECELIA TREZZI, CLELIA MAINETTI, BRUNA COLOMBO, EMMA BALDISSEROTTO, LINA DALDOSSO, LUCIA PAGANONI, AND REGINA PAGANI, BENEFICIARIES OF H. R. 4866

The aliens, who are members of the Roman Catholic Order of the Missionary Sisters of Verona, are natives and citizens of Italy. Emma Gazzaniga was born on February 17, 1909; Cecelia Trezzi on September 29, 1918; Clelia Mainetti on January 28, 1915; Bruna Colombo on August 27, 1921; Emma Baldisserotto on April 10, 1899; Lina DalDosso on December 7, 1913; Lucia Paganoni on December 9, 1925, and Regina Pagani on March 11, 1924. These nuns arrived in the United States at the port of New York on October 9, 1950, and were admitted as visitors for a period of 6 months. The last requests for extensions of stay of Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, Clelia Mainetti and Bruna Colombo, were denied on January 30, 1952, and they were given until March 30, 1952, to depart from the United States. The other named nuns were given extensions of stay until October 8, 1952.

Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, Clelia Mainetti, and Bruna Colombo, are at present doing social work among the Negro population in Richmond, Va., under a program approved by the Bishop of Richmond, and all expenses incident to their maintenance are furnished by the Catholic Diocese of Richmond.

Emma Gazzaniga's parents and sisters reside in Italy. Cecelia Trezzi's mother and brothers reside in Italy. Clelia Mainetti's brothers reside in Italy. She has a sister, Sister Enriquetta, formerly Aurelia Mainetti, a member of the Order of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who resides in Oakmont, Pa. Sister Enriquetta has been a United States citizen for 23 years. Bruna Colombo's parents, brothers, and sister reside in Italy. Emma Gazzaniga, Cecelia Trezzi, and Bruna Colombo do not have relatives in the United States.

Emma Baldisserotto, Lina DalDosso, Lucia Paganoni, and Regina Pagani are presently engaged in teaching Negro children in Mobile County, Ala. In addition, these nuns care for 20 Negro orphan children who were placed in a mission located in Chastang, Ala. These Sisters reside in the St. Peter's Convent in Chastang, Ala. Their maintenance is provided for by funds allocated through Father Grossi, priest at St. Peter's Convent, which is located in a rural section and its student body consists of Negro children who live in the surrounding area.

In addition, the House committee files contain the following affidavit with reference to the case:

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
*County of Mobile:*

Before me, the undersigned notary public in and for said State and county, personally appeared Most Rev. T. J. Toolen, bishop of Mobile, known to me, who, being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

That affiant is the Roman Catholic bishop of the diocese of Mobile, Ala., and has been for 25 years last past. As bishop of Mobile affiant is the chief spiritual shepherd of Roman Catholics residing in the State of Alabama and the State of Florida west of Apalachicola, Fla., such being the territory embraced within his diocese. Affiant says that a number of years ago in Mobile County, Ala., in a remote rural part thereof known as Chestang, the Reverend Sabino Grossi, S. S. J., a Roman Catholic priest, established under the direction of affiant a mission center. The people residing in this area are, for the most part, of mixed Indian, Negro, and white origin and are known locally as Negros or Cajuns.

At Chestang, Ala. there was erected a large and substantial Catholic church, a large and substantial rectory, and a large and substantial school and boarding home at which, under the direction of affiant as bishop, Father Grossi conducts a teaching school and home for the care of orphans and underprivileged colored and Cajun children, not only in the Chestang, Ala., area but for children within a radius of approximately 30 miles to the north and west of the location of the school. This institution is a charitable enterprise in no way operated for profit. Most of the students and residents pay either no tuition or a bare minimum of tuition.

Father Grossi required the services of Catholic nuns to teach in the school and care for the orphaned children (approximately 20 orphans) and affiant was able to procure the services of the Catholic Sisters of the Order of the Missionary Sisters of Verona, also known as the Pious Mothers of the Colored People. These Sisters have their mother house in Italy and have been engaged for many years in missionary work in Africa particularly. Affiant was able to procure six Sisters, all Italian citizens to come to Chestang from Italy to undertake care of these children and their education. Affiant was unable to obtain the services of any other religious order of teaching Sisters in the United States, due to the great scarcity of Sisters and the demands for them and these Missionary Sisters of Verona which affiant did obtain have been trained especially for work in rural mission areas among the colored.

Affiant makes this affidavit in connection with the bill H. R. 6968, Eighty-second Congress, second session, introduced by Congressman Frank Boykin, Congressman from the First Congressional District of Alabama, in whose jurisdiction the two persons named in the bill are now residing. Those Sisters are Marie Buffoni and Emma Botta. Affiant says that there is a great need for teaching Sisters in the Mobile district and need for Sisters willing to undertake the care of Negro orphan children, that there is a great lack of such Sisters, that these Sisters are needed from the angle of nursing and caring for the orphans in the school operated at Chestang, in the diocese of Mobile, that these Sisters admirably fulfilled the qualification from an educational point of view, willingness to endure the hardships and privations of rural areas and devote themselves to the care and teaching of the children who attend the school and the orphans who reside there, that there can be no question but that they would be absolutely loyal to the United States and affiant respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States favorably consider the instant bill for the relief of Maria Buffoni and Emma Botta. Affiant says that the remaining four Sisters who are teaching at Chestang in the school referred to are named in H. R. 4866 introduced by Congressman J. Vaughan Gary from the Third Congressional District of Virginia. If both bills are passed the total of six Sisters who have been teaching in the school of the diocese of Mobile will be able to remain in the United States and to obtain permanent residence and citizenship.

Affiant says that their exclusion or deportation from the United States would result in great hardship to the people who are being served by these Sisters without any compensation whatever and would seriously hamper the work of education, charity, and the fostering of religion in the diocese of Mobile.

Further than this affiant says nothing.

Most Rev. T. J. TOOLES.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of May 1952.

[SEAL]

VINCENT KILBORN,  
Notary Public, Mobile County, Ala.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 4866) should be enacted.

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